

Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of 2002 Biennial Regulatory Review -
Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules
and Other Rules Adopted Pursuant to Section 202
of the Telecommunications Act of 1996,
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking,
MM Docket No. 02-277, (rel. Sept. 23, 2002)

To: The Secretary, FCC Commissioners, and Chief, Media Bureau

I am writing to comment on The Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules, Docket No. 02-277. The purpose of the FCC is to serve the U.S. public and to ensure diversity, competition, and independence among broadcasters. The apparent intention to remove the rules that ensure this diversity is an outrage to tax-paying American citizens. Removal of these protections seems clearly designed to serve the interests of the already huge media corporations in the broadcast industry.

In recent years we've seen a diminishing range of media--local newspapers being taken over by larger papers that have no interest in local news, local radio stations being bought by media giants and ceasing to provide local and independent programming.

The air waves belong to the people, and should not be sold to the highest bidder. It is totally unacceptable to see media outlets merging and providing less and less opportunity for real communication. Rather the primary purpose of those who control the media is to make profits, to commercialize all programming.

The public interest will best be served by preserving media ownership rules in question in this proceeding.

I strongly encourage the FCC to hold hearings in all parts of the country and solicit the widest possible participation from the public which will be the most directly affected by the outcomes of these decisions. I think it is important for the FCC to not only consider the points of view of those with a financial interest in this issue, but also those with a social or civic interest.

With the serious impact these rule changes will have on our democracy, it is incumbent on the Commission to take the time to review these issues more thoroughly and allow the American people to have a meaningful say in the process.

Thank you,

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